

Mr. Chairman, I stand today with enthusiastic support for H.R. 362, 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds Science and Math Scholarship Act.

I want to add my thanks to Chairman Gordon and Ranking Member Hall for their leadership on this issue and continued commitment of our entire Science and Technology Committee and the Research and Science Education Subcommittee.

Last year, I received a letter from a mother in New Jersey whose 14-year-old daughter was not satisfied with her education. This young girl wanted permission from her parents to move to Beijing, China, for high school because she felt like her counterparts were getting ahead of her education here in the United States.

To me, this story underscores the need for our Nation to strengthen its investment in education, and it is consistent with the international statistics that we have seen of U.S. students falling behind in both the number of graduates and in academic performance with regard to science and math education.

In particular, America must make a major renewed commitment to education in math and science and engineering to promote innovation and technological advancement.

As public servants, our constituents have entrusted us with the responsibility of ensuring our educators have the tools they need to best serve our young people.

I urge all my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation to create a brighter future for our children, expanded support for our teachers, increased innovation in our research and technology, and a stronger competitive edge for the U.S. in the growing world marketplace.